

MEMORANDUM

5140

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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ACTION

17 September 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR HENRY A. KISSINGER

FROM:

A. W. MARSHALL *Am*

SUBJECT:

Changes in NSCID's and Termination
of the NIS Program

You have received a memorandum from the Director of Central Intelligence informing you of his intention to discontinue the production of National Intelligence Surveys (NIS). (See Tab A) This will require a change in NSCID No. 3, which gives CIA responsibility for the NIS program. (See Tab B, Section 1) He requests that the required change be held up until he has considered other possible changes in the NSCID's. He may recommend some that further respond to the President's November 5, 1971 directive and reflect pending Congressional discussion of the National Security Act of 1947.

BACKGROUND

The NIS's are encyclopedic country reports prepared to provide basic background information at the SECRET level. Each country's NIS is updated every few years. Although prepared by the CIA, the document is used primarily by the Military Services, the Joint Command, and a variety of other agencies. The CIA believes the program costs too much and feels it serves no national level need.

Ending the program has evoked controversy:

-- The Services see it as a basic document which they will have to replace. They and others argue that it meets a need for a coordinated intelligence document providing data on a variety of topics and has served as a one-setup source for such information. Substitutes can be prepared, but the value of a single, coordinated data base for all agencies will gradually be lost.

NSS Review Completed.

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-- Complicating matters is the feeling that CIA railroaded the termination of the program through the USIB. The proposed termination surprised the Services, who responded slowly and ineffectively in the USIB forum.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend you agree to defer changing the NSCID's until Colby has fully considered recommendations for other changes. There is no reason to intervene as regards the basic decision despite the controversy. The USIB is the place to decide the issue of the NIS termination. To ask Colby to reverse himself undermines his leadership role. If you agree, I will communicate to the DCI that you await his suggestions as to changes in the NSCID's.

Agree

K

Disagree

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

11 September 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to the President for National
Security Affairs

SUBJECT : Termination of the National Intelligence
Survey Program

1. The National Intelligence Survey (NIS) has been produced over many years as an encyclopedic collation of information and analysis of the more or less permanent characteristics and resources of foreign countries. With the pressure of resources, this Program has been whittled down in scope from an earlier extensive effort to provide near contemporaneous information on a wide range of countries. In the past few years, the Program has come under increasing pressure due to the feeling that it contributed comparatively little to high-level national intelligence customers, whatever its contribution at the lower and training levels of the departments. In recent months CIA has come to the conclusion that it can no longer justify the use of its resources for this publication in competition with other requirements. This matter was discussed with the United States Intelligence Board, and at its meeting of 19 July 1973 the USIB noted the CIA decision to terminate the Program and approved a phase-out plan to be implemented during the remainder of Fiscal Year 1974. The attached notification is planned to be sent to NIS customers with respect to this termination.

2. The NIS Program is authorized in paragraph 1 of NSCID No. 3. Termination of the Program would require a revision of the NSCID. Rather than move on this one subject only, however, it is my suggestion that I be permitted also to develop recommendations for possible revision of the other

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NSCID's, which in my opinion will make them more reflective of the spirit of the President's memorandum of 5 November 1971. This would also enable us to reflect and respond to some of the recent Congressional discussions of the role of these NSCID's with relation to the National Security Act of 1947, and the statutory authority under which the Agency and the intelligence community operate.

3. On 20 September I plan to disseminate to NIS customers the attached notification of termination of the Program and, unless you object, I shall defer the revision of NSCID No. 3 until I have developed recommendations for the possible revision of other NSCID's.


W. E. Colby
Director

Attachment

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Termination of the National Intelligence Survey

1. General Survey

a. Program will be terminated by the end of FY 1974.

b. NIS General Survey production programming for FY 1974 will be limited to the following countries: Denmark, Republic of China, Spain, Turkey and Czechoslovakia. The NIS production schedule for FY 1974, approved by the NIS Committee on 24 January 1973, is amended to reflect this change.

c. All inputs from contributing agencies will reach the NIS Division of OBG, CIA, by 1 January 1974. The remaining 6 months of FY 1974 will be devoted to clearing the pipeline and making proper disposition of the files and records. (At present 22 General Surveys--including the 5 listed above--remain in the pipeline, plus 3 or 4 detailed sections.)

2. Inventory

a. NIS publications in the inventory at the end of FY 1974 (approximately 2,000 titles, 3,200 cu. ft) will continue to be available for dissemination through established channels from CIA until existing stocks are depleted.

b. CIA does not plan to continue to reprint on demand titles out of stock. Any NIS reproducibles desired by DIA will be turned over to DIA for retention.

3. Factbook

a. CIA will continue to compile, coordinate, edit, publish, and disseminate an interagency Factbook. It will resemble closely the NIS Factbook in format, scope, and method and scheduling of production.

b. Factbook contributions and cooperation from the DoD, the Department of State, and others must continue if the Factbook is to continue.

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NSCID No. 3

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL INTELLIGENCE

DIRECTIVE NO. 3¹

COORDINATION OF INTELLIGENCE PRODUCTION

(Effective 17 February 1972)

For the purpose of coordinating the intelligence production activities of the several Government departments and agencies in the interest of national security, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 102 of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, the National Security Council hereby authorizes and directs that the following overall policies, objectives, categories of intelligence and allocations of responsibility be established.

1. Basic Intelligence

a. Basic intelligence is that factual intelligence that results from the collation of encyclopedic information of a fundamental and more or less permanent nature and that, as a result of evaluation and interpretation, is determined to be the best available.

b. An outline of all basic intelligence required by the Government shall be maintained by the Central Intelligence Agency in collaboration with the appropriate departments and agencies. This outline shall be broken down into chapters, sections and subsections, which shall be allocated as production and maintenance responsibilities to the Central Intelligence Agency and/or to those other departments or agencies of the Government that are best qualified by reason of mission, production capability, and primary interest to assume the production and maintenance responsibilities. To ensure the production of the basic intelligence required by the Government and the fullest possible use of current departmental and agency capabilities, changes in the outline or allocations of production and maintenance responsibilities shall be effected by agreement between the Director of Central Intelligence and the departments and agencies concerned.

c. Basic intelligence required in the interest of national security shall be compiled and continuously maintained in National Intelligence Surveys (NIS) to cover foreign countries, areas or broad special subjects, in accordance with National Security Council-approved NIS Standard Instructions and inter-departmental-approved amendments thereto. The National Intelligence Surveys will be disseminated in such form as shall be determined by the Director of Central Intelligence with the advice of the departments and agencies concerned.

d. The Director of Central Intelligence shall be responsible for coordinating production and maintenance and for accomplishing the review, publication and dissemination of these National Intelligence Surveys, and shall make such

¹ This Directive supersedes NSCID No. 3 dated 18 January 1961.

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requests of the departments and agencies as are necessary for proper development and maintenance of the Surveys.

e. Departments or agencies to be called on for contributions to this undertaking may include other than those represented permanently on the United States Intelligence Board.

2. Current Intelligence

a. Current intelligence is that intelligence of all types and forms of immediate interest usually disseminated without the delays incident to complete evaluation or interpretation.

b. The Central Intelligence Agency and the several departments and agencies shall produce and disseminate such current intelligence as may be necessary to meet their own internal requirements. The current intelligence produced by the Central Intelligence Agency is produced primarily to meet the needs of the President, National Security Council and other high-level consumers; in addition, it serves the common needs of the interested departments and agencies of the Government for current intelligence that they themselves do not produce. The departments and agencies will contribute to the Central Intelligence Agency current intelligence items and publications as appropriate and on a timely basis.

3. Departmental intelligence is that intelligence any department or agency requires to execute its own mission.

4. Interdepartmental intelligence is integrated departmental intelligence required by departments and agencies of the Government for the execution of their missions but transcending the exclusive competence of a single department or agency to produce. Joint intelligence is a special category of interdepartmental intelligence jointly produced by defense intelligence organizations in the performance of the assigned missions of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Such subcommittee structure of the United States Intelligence Board as shall be established by the Director of Central Intelligence may be utilized for the production and dissemination of such forms of intelligence.

5. National intelligence is that intelligence required for the formulation of national security policy, concerning more than one department or agency and transcending the exclusive competence of a single department or agency. The production of national intelligence is covered in NSCID No. 1. Intelligence relating to the national security that has been produced as interdepartmental or departmental intelligence may also, when appropriate, be submitted to the Director of Central Intelligence for issuance as national intelligence by the Director of Central Intelligence as provided in NSCID No. 1.

6. Each department or agency, taking full cognizance of the facilities of the other agencies, shall maintain adequate research facilities to accomplish its departmental intelligence production mission and to provide such additional intelligence within its field of primary responsibilities as may be necessary to satisfy other requirements relating to the national security.

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7. To ensure that the capabilities of the departments and agencies are utilized effectively for the production of intelligence of common concern, the following division of interests, subject to refinement through a continuous program of coordination and evaluation by the Director of Central Intelligence to promote an integration of effort and to avoid undesirable duplication, shall serve as a general delincation of primary responsibilities:

a. The Department of State shall produce political and sociological intelligence on all countries and economic intelligence on countries of the Free World.

b. The Department of Defense shall produce military intelligence. This production shall include scientific, technical and economic intelligence directly pertinent to the missions of the various components of the Department of Defense.

c. The Central Intelligence Agency shall produce economic, scientific and technical intelligence. Further, the Central Intelligence Agency may produce such other intelligence as may be necessary to discharge the statutory responsibilities of the Director of Central Intelligence.

d. The production of intelligence on atomic energy is a responsibility of all departments and agencies represented on the U.S. Intelligence Board with responsibilities for the production of finished intelligence, to be coordinated through the Joint Atomic Energy Intelligence Committee structure.

8. Despite the above-mentioned allocations of primary production responsibilities, there will be areas of common or overlapping interest that will require continuing interagency liaison and cooperation. In the event that a requirement for intelligence is established for which there is not existing production capability, the Director of Central Intelligence, in consultation with the United States Intelligence Board, shall determine which of the departments and agencies of the intelligence community can best undertake the primary responsibility as a service of common concern.